

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
M E M O R A N D U M**

DATE: April 2, 2003

TO: Citizen's Review Committee on ADA and Disability Issues

FROM: Mauro Garcia, Assistant Deputy Director, Street Division

SUBJECT: Street Tree Impacts to Blue Zone and Sidewalks

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Thank you for inviting Street Division to discuss concerns on the negative impacts street trees may have on the blue parking zones and sidewalks at your committee meetings on February 28, 2003 and March 28, 2003. Ms. Cyndi Jones initially brought these issues to our attention at the Rules Committee Meeting of January 29, 2003.

Based on feedback from the Citizen's Review Committee on ADA and Disability Issues (CRC) and the Subcommittee for Removal of Architectural Barriers (SCRAB), Ms. Rosa Elena Enriquez-Barragan, Acting Disability Services Coordinator, forwarded the following recommendation from the CRC's meeting of March 28, 2003:

*"Planting of trees should be done 30 feet apart. The party installing the tree must be the party maintaining the tree: roots, falls, etc., if individuals plant trees on their own, they will be responsible for the tree. For parallel parking (adjacent to curb), the tree will not be within 3 feet of the blue area (3 feet from the curb edge)."*

Street Division's policy is consistent with the recommended spacing listed above. In addition, permits for street trees will not be granted to plant a tree in a blue zone within 3 feet of the curb's edge.

Trees planted within the street public right-of-way are the responsibility of the City of San Diego. The Street Division's maintenance responsibility includes trimming to eliminate immediate hazards such as: root pruning, trimming required to provide visibility for motorists, trimming to provide clearances for pedestrians, traffic signals and other traffic control devices that are located within the public right-of-way. Responsibility for the pickup of leaves, flowers, berries, and any other small debris is the adjacent property owner's responsibility.

If the CRC or SCRAB has any additional concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at (619) 527-7520.

Mauro Garcia

(StreetTrees&DisabledAccess.doc)